

**Assembly Concurrent Resolution**

**No. 66**

**Introduced by Assembly Member Olberg**

June 24, 1997

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Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 66—Relative to the John Wilkie Safety Roadside Rest Area.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 66, as introduced, Olberg. John Wilkie Safety Roadside Rest Area.

This measure would redesignate the Fenner Safety Roadside Rest Area on Interstate Highway Route 40 the John Wilkie Safety Roadside Rest Area.

The measure would also request the Department of Transportation to determine the cost of appropriate plaques and markers, consistent with signing requirements for the state highway system, showing that special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources covering that cost, to erect those plaques and markers.

Fiscal committee: yes.

1 WHEREAS, In John Wilkie's outstanding 27-year  
2 career with the Department of Transportation  
3 (Caltrans), he rose from a Caltrans equipment operator  
4 to a highway maintenance superintendent; and

5 WHEREAS, John Wilkie's experience and expertise in  
6 many areas resulted in his participation on numerous  
7 statewide committees dealing with highway issues; and

1 WHEREAS, In continuing his commitment to  
2 providing quality services for the traveling public, John  
3 Wilkie was an active participant in developing a  
4 statewide collaborative program to provide employment  
5 opportunities for persons with disabilities throughout the  
6 statewide roadside rest system of Caltrans; and

7 WHEREAS, John Wilkie's statewide leadership role  
8 was the foundation for the development of an  
9 interdepartmental task force consisting of Caltrans, the  
10 state Department of Mental Health, and the Department  
11 of Rehabilitation; and

12 WHEREAS, Using "roads as bridges to employment,"  
13 the task force successfully increased statewide  
14 employment opportunities for persons with disabilities by  
15 facilitating, activating, and empowering local  
16 communities to coordinate and maximize their resources;  
17 and

18 WHEREAS, Due to John Wilkie's statewide leadership  
19 role, Caltrans received a special employer's award for its  
20 outstanding contribution to increasing employment  
21 opportunities for this state's disabled population that was  
22 presented at the 1992 Employment Partnership  
23 Conference of Consumers, Employers, and Service  
24 Providers, sponsored by the state Department of Mental  
25 Health and the Department of Rehabilitation; and

26 WHEREAS, Through John Wilkie's continuing  
27 statewide contribution to creating employment  
28 opportunities within the Caltrans system, Caltrans  
29 received in 1994 a Public Employer of the Year Award  
30 from the Governor's Committee for Employment of  
31 Disabled Persons; and

32 WHEREAS, With John Wilkie representing Caltrans,  
33 California's Building the Employment Services Team  
34 (BEST) Networks were developed statewide to address  
35 and meet employee, employer, and community needs;  
36 and

37 WHEREAS, Those statewide community focus groups  
38 share the common mission of supporting collaborative  
39 employment services for persons with disabilities; and



1 WHEREAS, The commitment of Caltrans to  
2 participating in the development of statewide  
3 employment opportunities for persons with disabilities  
4 was demonstrated by its designation of John Wilkie as a  
5 department representative when he was the Needles  
6 Highway Maintenance Superintendent and later as a  
7 retired annuitant; and

8 WHEREAS, Dedicating a safety roadside rest area to  
9 John Wilkie recognizes where his journey began in  
10 developing employment opportunities for disabled  
11 people in this state to provide quality services to the  
12 traveling public; and

13 WHEREAS, The Fenner Safety Roadside Rest Area is  
14 maintained by the Needles TEAM, a specialized  
15 employment program initiated by John Wilkie for those  
16 residents of Needles who have difficulty obtaining and  
17 maintaining employment; now, therefore, be it

18 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the*  
19 *Senate concurring,* That the Fenner Safety Roadside Rest  
20 Area on Interstate Highway Route 40 is hereby  
21 redesignated the John Wilkie Safety Roadside Rest Area;  
22 and be it further

23 *Resolved,* That the Department of Transportation is  
24 requested to determine the cost of appropriate plaques  
25 and markers, consistent with signing requirements for  
26 the state highway system, showing the special designation  
27 and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources  
28 covering that cost, to erect those plaques and markers;  
29 and be it further

30 *Resolved,* That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly  
31 transmit a copy of the resolution to the Director of  
32 Transportation.

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